Launching WIDA with a Purpose: A Collaborative Approach

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Vision: Imagining the possibilities. Making them happen

Mission: To build an education system of high quality and equity that is focused on student centered accountability

Essential Question:

How does Utah launch WIDA with a purpose and a collaborative approach?

WIDA's Premises:

- 1) Understanding EL's means understanding the process of second language development (Fillmore & Snow, 2002)
- 2) Discussions about the learning of ELs must be based on the knowledge students bring to school rather than the knowledge that they lack (Gonzalez et al 2005)
- 3) ELs thrive in schools where their education is the responsibility of the whole staff and not only of language specialists (Coady et al 2008)
- 4) Professional development is effective when it is coherent (Garter et al 2001)

If we focus on...



Utah will successfully implement the WIDA standards to ensure equity and high quality for English learners

Empowered Stakeholders

INCREASED COLLABORATION: LEADING BY CONVENING

STATE LEVEL

- Superintendent
- Teaching and Learning
- Student Assessment
- Special Education
- Federal Programs
- UMTSS

LOCAL LEVEL

- ALS Directors
- University Partnerships
- Building Leadership



Effective Communication

RIGHT COMMUNICATION AT THE RIGHT TIME

TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION

- Learning Connection Forums
- DMI
- Site Visits
- Monthly Webinars
- Monthly ALS Directors collaboration
- Open Calls

MULTIPLE MODALITIES

- Newsletters
- Social Media
 - Twitter/Facebook
 - Google+ Communities of Practice
- Website with relevant content
- Facilitated sharing of strategies
 - LEA-to-LEA
 - Current Research and best-practice

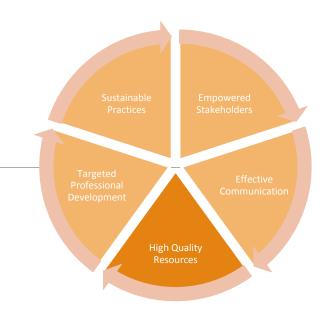


CREATE A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR UTAH EDUCATORS

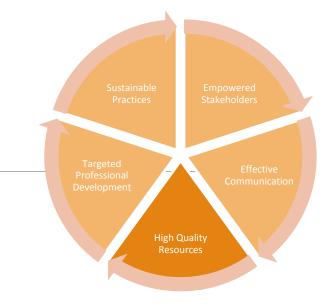
SCHOOLS.UTAH.GOV/FSP/ELL-SERVICES

- Encourage LEAs to submit their locally created resources
- Created state specific resources to fit individualized needs
- Provided clarity on the process to adopt and why we have WIDA standards

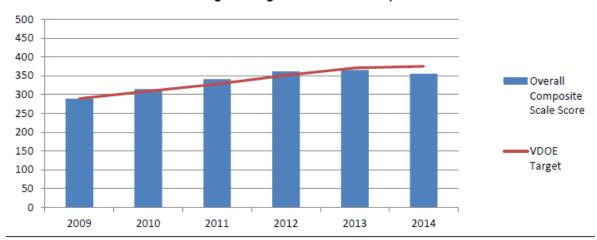
- FL Master Plan
- Allow for local customization of documents to fit corporation level needs
- Other states are welcome to use the resources too!

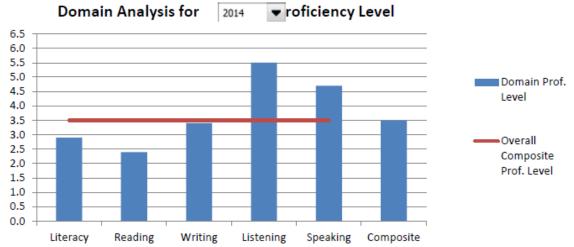


WIDA ACCESS DATA SUMMARY



Student Progress Targets for Overall Composite Scale Score





Targeted Professional

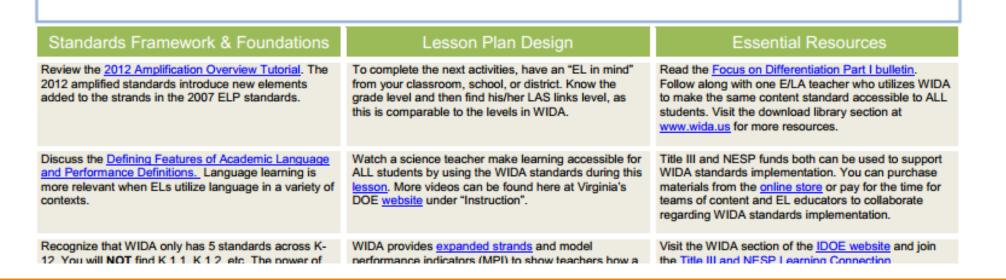
Effective Communication

High Quality Resources

WIDA Resource Guide

Use the 15 activities below at the local level to begin learning about the newly adopted WIDA English language development (ELD) standards to increase the academic achievement of the English learners (ELs) in your schools.





WIDA IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE

 Synopsis of WIDA Starter Packs with Utah specific examples

Sample WIDA Standards Framework Implementation Project Plan

School districts may wish to use this resource to plan the implementation of the WIDA ELD Standards Framework with all educators of English learners. This is a suggested plan; school districts may wish to alter items within this plan. The activities below may be supported via Title I (for eligible students/schools), Title II, Title III, and Non-English Speaking Program (NESP).

Task	Timeframe/ Deadline	Resource Names	Comments/ Outcome	Budget
WIDA ELD standards overview training for administrators	Ongoing; Beginning of School Year			
WIDA ELD standards overview training for all teachers of English learners (EL, content area etc.)	Ongoing; Beginning of School Year			
Review and development of EL and content area curriculum to ensure WIDA Integration	Ongoing; Fall/Winter of School Year			
Provide outreach to Inform EL families about the WIDA ELD Standards and integration with Indiana Academic Standards to improve achievement	Ongoing; Fall/Winter of School Year			
Develop a WIDA cadre or leadership team of educators to develop/offer further training	Ongoing; Winter/Spring of School Year			
Analyze local formative (i.e. progress monitoring) and summative (i.e. ACCESS, ISTEP+) date to evaluate program success	Ongoing; Spring of School Year			
Determine effectiveness and fidelity of WIDA standards implementation in accountability plans, such as teacher accountability (use state/local funds only) or school improvement	Ongoing; Spring of School Year			



GUIDELINES FOR LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR EL'S

- Outlines the basic language development supports require for EL's
- Ensures interventions are provided with fidelity prior to referral to special education

Step 1

• Build Visibility and Awareness

Step 2

• Guidelines for EL supports

Step 3

• Content-specific recommendations



Targeted Professional Development

Multi-Tier System of Supports

LEA-Specific Supports

Alignment of USOE Policies

Regional WIDA Trainings

ALS Director Trainings

WIDA Training of Trainers

Ongoing Fresh Digital Content



Targeted Professional Development

- Develop long- and short-term professional development plan
- Regional Trainings
- LEA Technical Assistance and Monitoring



Sustainable Practices

STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- Title III plans require LEAs to provide sustainable plan of WIDA implementation
- Alignment between EL Screening tool and WIDA ACCESS
- State guidance to think deeply about other funds and resources which can support this work



Next Steps

- Coordination with WIDA
- Increase Visibility and Alignment
 - Utilize existing avenues (UMTSS, USOE Content Specialists, etc.)
 - Use existing resources more efficiently
- Provide Technical Assistance to Admin, Content Teachers, and EL Teachers
- Develop Webinars/Videos
- Create an Equitable System of Continuous Improvement
 - DMI